

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace, without prejudice, all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cover comprises comprising a base end and a head end connected to each other by at least one connecting portion.
3. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one connecting portion resists flow of fluid therethrough whereas the head end and the base end substantially allow the flow of fluids therethrough.
4. (Currently Amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cover is deformable from the first shape to the second shape on action of the external force from substantially any direction.
5. Canceled.
6. (Currently Amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 2, wherein the maximum transverse dimension of the base end is greater than the maximum transverse dimension of the head end.
7. (Currently Amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the tubular shape tapers inwardly from the base end to the head end.
8. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 7, wherein the cover is frusto-conical in shape.

9. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cross-section at the base end is polygonal.

10. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cross-section at the head end is substantially circular.

11. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cross-section of the connecting portion transforms changes from a polygonal cross section at the base end to a circular cross section at the head end.

12. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 2, wherein the head end includes a mechanism to reduce the likelihood of snagging.

13. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 12, wherein the mechanism comprises a mesh screen.

14. (Currently amended) An immersion suit cover as claimed in claim 15, wherein the cover is formed from a plurality of conjoined segments.

15. (Currently amended) An immersion suit comprising at least one valve, and at least one substantially tubular cover as claimed in claim 1 for the valve, the cover being permanently attached to the immersion suit around a periphery of the cover around the valve and being deformable on action of an external force from a first shape extending away from the immersion suit to a second shape wherein, in use, the cover folds over the valve and substantially protects at least a portion of the valve from the external force.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently amended) An immersion suit as claimed in claim 16, wherein the at least one connecting portion extends away from the immersion suit.

18. (Currently amended) An immersion suit as claimed in claim 16 2, wherein the base end is secured to the immersion suit in the vicinity of the valve, such that the valve is in fluid communication with a bore of the cover.

19. (Currently amended) An immersion suit as claimed in claim 16 2, wherein the at least one valve comprises at least one air exhaust and when the cover adopts the second shape, the at least one connecting portion is of sufficient surface area to substantially protect the at least one air exhaust.

20. (Original) An immersion suit as claimed in claim 19, wherein the at least one connecting portion extends to a length at least equal to the distance between any one point where the said connecting portion is secured to the immersion suit and the furthest air exhaust from that one point.

21. (Original) An immersion suit as claimed in claim 15, wherein the valve is a one-way air exhaust valve.

22. (Original) An immersion suit as claimed in claim 19, wherein when the cover adopts the second shape, air is permitted to escape from within the immersion suit through the at least one valve exhaust.

23. (Original) An immersion suit as claimed in claim 15, wherein the external force is caused by fluid moving with a shearing action with respect to the valve.

24. (Currently amended) An eover for a valve of an immersion suit, comprising: a valve, and a cover for the valve permanently connected to the suit about a periphery of the cover, the cover being deformable from a first shape to a second shape on action of an external force, the first shape defining a bore, wherein, in use, when the cover adopts the second shape it folds over the valve and substantially protects at least a portion of the valve from the external force.